



New Jersey Department of Children and Families Policy Manual

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Chapter:	F	Children in Conflict with the Law	4-3-2018
Subchapter:	1	Juveniles	
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Definition

11-2-87

The Juvenile-Family Crisis Intervention Unit (CIU) is a unit of the Family Court Intake service or other county office or a private service contracted by the county. Its purpose is to provide continuous twenty-four hour on-call service to attend to and stabilize juvenile-family crises which are referred to the Unit. N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-76, 77.

Referrals to the CIU

11-2-87

The CIU accepts referrals from law enforcement offices, parents, juveniles, public and private agencies, and anyone who has reasonable cause to believe that a juvenile-family crisis exists.

Public agencies which are under legal obligation to provide services to families must state in the referral the reasons why they can not provide appropriate services. CP&P is such a public agency. N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-80, 81.

Immediate Response of CIU

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The CIU must respond immediately to any referral unless it appears that no juvenile-family crisis exists or referral to another agency would be more appropriate.

Immediate interviews with the parents and child are required. Interviews may be either in-person or by telephone. If a telephone interview stabilizes the immediate crisis, an in-person interview must be held within the following twenty-four hours.

If an out-of-home placement in a non-family setting (such as a Juvenile-Family Crisis Shelter) is necessary, an in-person interview with the child and parents is required prior to the placement.

When Juvenile-Family Crisis is Stabilized

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When the juvenile remains at home, and the initial interview was by

phone, a second interview is scheduled within twenty-four hours. Involvement with the family may cease after this interview if there is no need for additional services.

When Juvenile-Family Crisis Continues

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When continued intervention is indicated, the CIU may conduct a family assessment. A family service agreement may be developed, agreed to and implemented (N.J.S.A. 4A-78). Any and all diagnostic evaluations can only be conducted with the permission of the family or ordered by the court. The family service agreement may include short term counseling by CIU staff, as well as use of various community resources. CIU monitors the implementation of the family service agreement. N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-82.

Referral to Court

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When the CIU believes that the juvenile-family crisis continues due to lack of cooperation with the family service agreement or the exhausting or nonexistence of appropriate community resources, the CIU refers the case to Court Intake, with recommendations for resolving the crisis. N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-83, 84.

CIU/CP&P/Family Part Agreement

4-3-2018

CP&P and the Administrative Office of the Courts signed an affiliation agreement to clarify the roles of CP&P, the CIU and Court Intake in handling juvenile-family crisis cases. See the [CIU/CP&P/Family Part Agreement](#). Each county operates under a local affiliation agreement using this agreement as a model.

The agreement addresses such topics as information sharing, referrals from the CIU to CP&P and from CP&P to the CIU, allegations of child abuse and neglect, out-of-home placements and runaways.